

Applicants note for the record that it had originally filed this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment via Express Mail this past Friday, November 16, 2001. However, it was later learned that the Express Mail service has been temporarily suspended (see Exhibit A); thus, necessitating the refiling of this Amendment via facsimile.

IN THE CLAIMS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(3), Applicants hereby submit a clean version of new claims 78-98 for the Examiner's convenience.

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer and add the following new

claims

78. (New) A microparticle comprising a core and electrochemiluminescent moieties within said core.

79. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, wherein said electrochemiluminescent moieties are blended within said core.

80. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, wherein said core is polymeric and said electrochemiluminescent moieties are blended within said core.

81. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, wherein said core comprises plastic and said electrochemiluminescent moieties are blended with said plastic to form said core.

82. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, wherein said electrochemiluminescent moieties are enclosed within said core.

83. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, wherein said core is a liposome and said electrochemiluminescent moieties are enclosed within said liposome.

84. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, wherein said core comprises pores and said electrochemiluminescent moieties are enclosed within said pores.

85. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, wherein said electrochemiluminescent moieties comprises transition metals.

86. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, wherein said electrochemiluminescent moieties comprises Ru, Os, or Re.

87. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, wherein said core is electrically conductive.

88. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, wherein said core comprises metal.

89. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, wherein said core comprises gold, silver, platinum, palladium, zinc, iron, nickel, lead or copper.

90. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, wherein said core comprises gold, silver, platinum, or palladium.

91. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, wherein said core comprises gold.

92. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, wherein said core comprises carbon.

93. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, wherein said core comprises carbon black, graphitic nanotubes or fullerenes.

94. (New) The microparticle of claim 78, further comprising an assay ligand.

95. (New) The microparticle of claim 94, wherein said assay ligand is selected from the group consisting of proteins, nucleic acids, lipids, steroids, carbohydrates, porphyrins, alkaloids, nucleotides, nucleosides, amino acids, fatty acids, viruses, microorganisms, biological cells, and subcellular particles.

96. (New) The microparticle of claim 94, wherein said assay ligand is selected from the group consisting of proteins and nucleic acids.